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THE SAGA OF JOHNNY BLAZE: Once, not so long ago, he was the pawn of Satan. He has since been freed. But, for reasons he cannot yet comprehend, he still possesses Satan-spawned strength and the searing touch of hell fire. Whether these supernatural powers are a blessing or a curse, he does not know. Yet.

Stan Lee presents: THE GHOST RIDER!™

R. McKENZIE & DON PERLIN / SCRIPT / CO-PLOT / PENCILS | PERLIN / INKER | D. ALBERS / LETTERER | F. MOULY / COLORIST | ROGER STERN / EDITOR | J. SHOOTER / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

HIS NAME IS JOHNNY BLAZE AND HE IS MANY THINGS THIS DAY:
TIRED, DEPRESSED. HOT. THIRSTY. LONELY. HUNGRY AND...
LOST!! I DON'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA WHERE I AM! ALL I KNOW FOR SURE IS THAT BOUNTY HUNTER BROUGHT ME HERE--WHEREVER 'HERE' IS--TO DIE!*
BUT HE FAILED IN HIS HELLISH QUEST FOR MY SOUL! I'M STILL FREE! YEAH... FREE... NOW THAT'S A LAUGH!
MY LIFE'S AS MUCH A SHAMBLES AS THIS ROTTEN GHOST TOWN!
...whom a child would destroy!"
*GR #32--ROG.

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YES, JOHNNY BLAZE IS MANY THINGS, BUT WHATEVER ELSE HE MAY BE, HE IS ALSO A DEMON CALLED -- GHOST RIDER!
BLAST IT, NO!
IT'S NOT FAIR! WHY SHOULD I CONSTANTLY HAVE TO SUFFER--
--CURSED WITH THE DAMNABLE MORTAL CONSCIENCE OF JOHNNY BLAZE?!
BY ALL THE POWERS OF DARKNESS, WHY?
NO--WHAT AM I SAYING? IT'S GETTING HARDER AND HARDER TO CONTROL THE DEMONIC SEETHING RAGE OF THE GHOST RIDER!
AND... GOD HELP ME... I'M BEGINNING TO LIKE IT... THAT WAY!
KRAKK
BUT BEFORE THAT THOUGHT CAN FULLY SINK IN, SOMETHING... SOME FORCE... ROUGHLY THROWS GHOST RIDER ACROSS THE DESERTED STREET.

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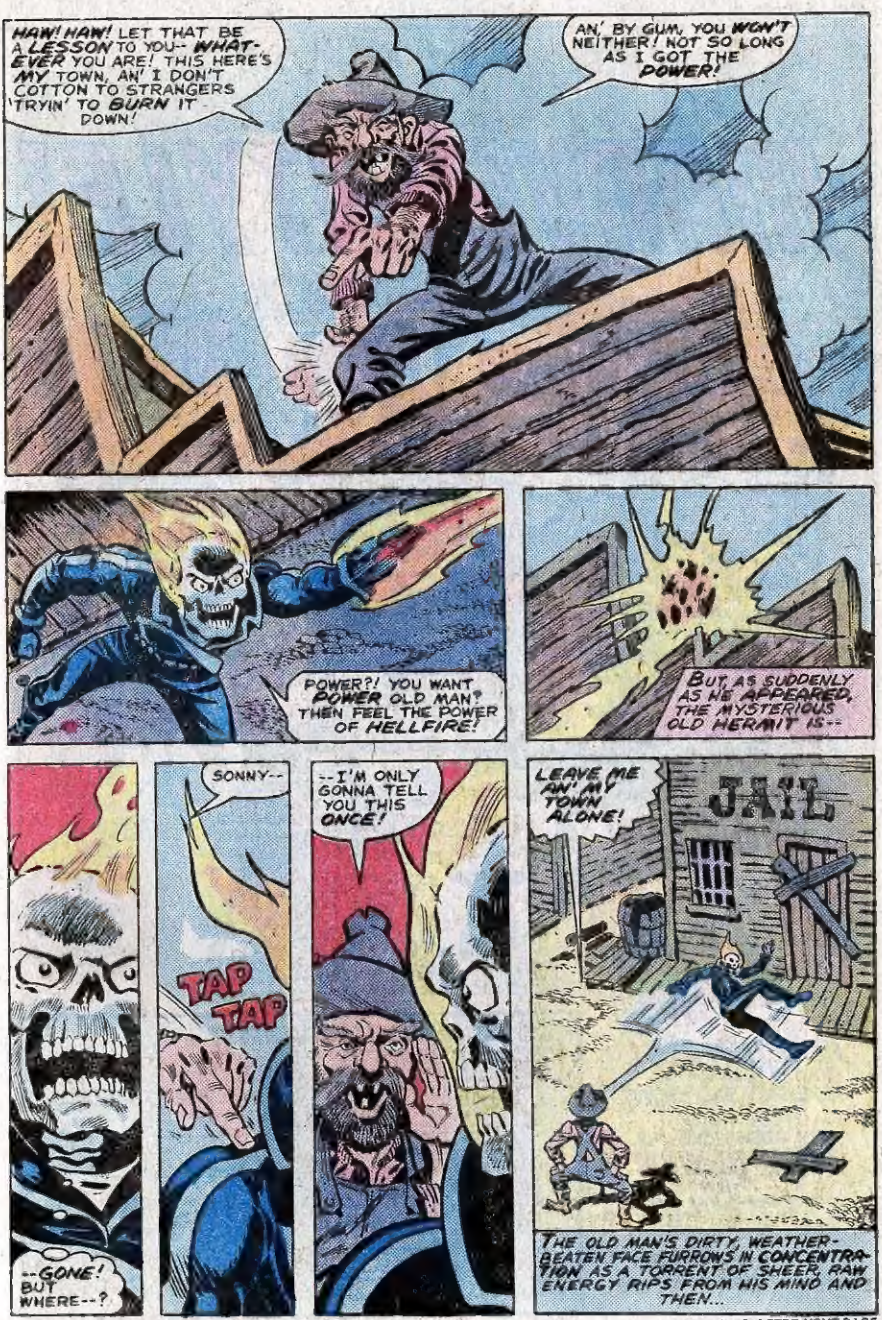
HAW! HAW! LET THAT BE A LESSON TO YOU-- WHATEVER YOU ARE! THIS HERE'S MY TOWN, AN' I DON'T COTTON TO STRANGERS 'TRYIN' TO BURN IT DOWN!
AN' BY GUM, YOU WON'T NEITHER! NOT SO LONG AS I GOT THE POWER!
POWER?! YOU WANT POWER OLD MAN? THEN FEEL THE POWER OF HELLFIRE!
BUT AS SUDDENLY AS HE APPEARED, THE MYSTERIOUS OLD HERMIT IS--
--GONE! BUT WHERE--?
SONNY--
TAP TAP
--I'M ONLY GONNA TELL YOU THIS ONCE!
LEAVE ME AN' MY TOWN ALONE!
JAIL
THE OLD MAN'S DIRTY, WEATHER-BEATEN FACE FURROWS IN CONCENTRATION AS A TORRENT OF SHEER, RAW ENERGY RIPS FROM HIS MIND AND THEN...

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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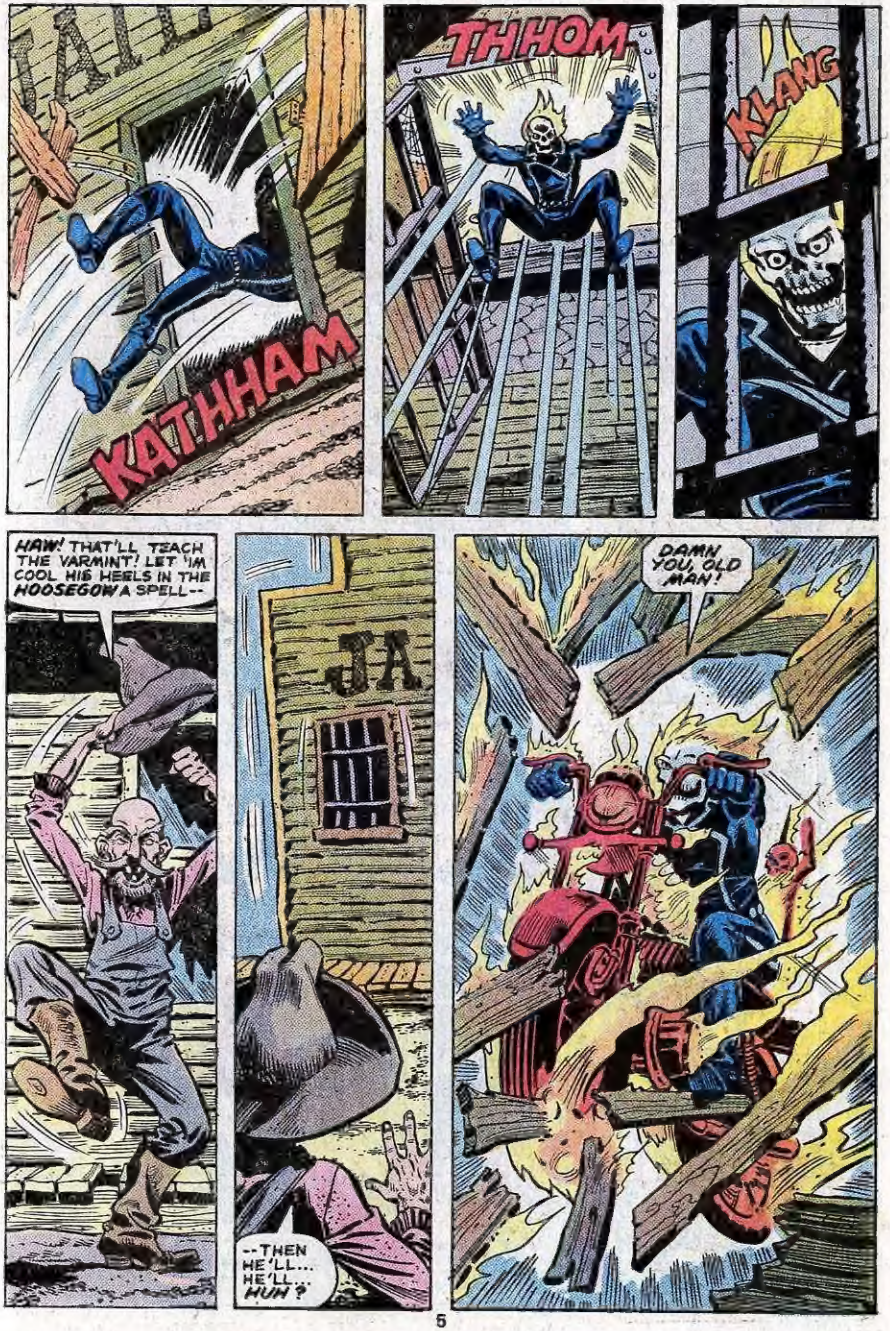
KATHHAM
THHOM
KLANG
HAW! THAT'LL TEACH THE VARMINT! LET 'IM COOL HIS HEELS IN THE HOOSEGOW A SPELL--
--THEN HE'LL... HE'LL... HUH?
DAMN YOU, OLD MAN!

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DAMN YOU TO HADES!
YEOWWW
YOU CANNOT GUESS THE SUFFERING I ENDURE, OLD MAN! SUFFERING ENOUGH TO LAST A HUNDRED LIFETIMES!
AND BY THE DARK LORD, I WILL SUFFER NO MORE!
BUT YOU, OLD MAN, YOU WILL SUFFER THE SEARING TOUCH OF HELLFIRE! THE TOUCH OF GHOST RIDER!
THEN YOU WILL KNOW MY CONSTANT, HELLISH TORMENT! YOU WILL KNOW IT--AND YOU WILL DAMN WELL NEVER FORGET IT!
S-S-SONNY--?
YOU GOT OLD WOODY ALL WRONG! I--I THOUGHT... HE... SENT YOU AFTER ME--LIKE HE DID THEM OTHER DEMONS!
OTHER DEMONS--?!
WHY, SHORE! I SEEN 'EM! GOL-DANGIT, THEY BEEN AFTER ME FOR WEEKS NOW! EVER SINCE I GOT THE POWER.
I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT, IF'N YOU JUST--
--PUT ME DOWN?!
YES, YOU WILL TELL ME, OR--
THE DEMON THAT IS THE GHOST RIDER HUNGERS FOR VENGEANCE--BUT THE MAN THAT IS JOHNNY BLAZE DOES NOT.
THE MAN WINS... THIS TIME.

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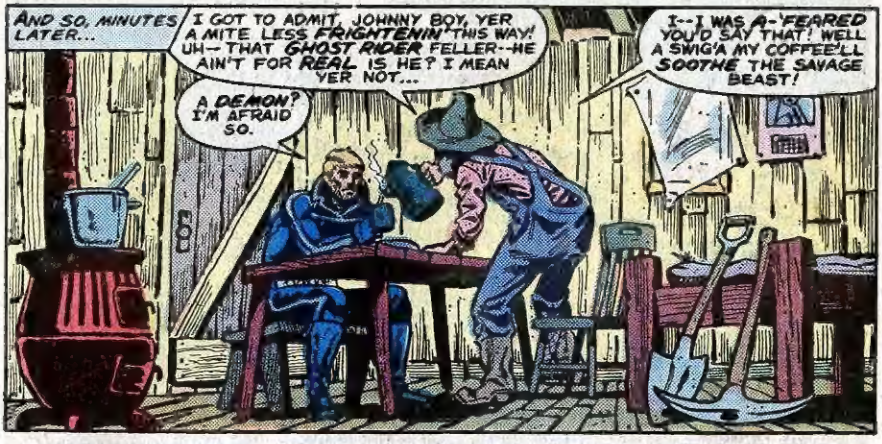
AND SO, MINUTES LATER...
I GOT TO ADMIT, JOHNNY BOY, YER A MITE LESS FRIGHTENIN' THIS WAY! UH—THAT GHOST RIDER FELLER--HE AIN'T FOR REAL IS HE? I MEAN YER NOT...
A DEMON? I'M AFRAID SO.
I--I WAS A-FEARED YOU'D SAY THAT! WELL A SWIG'A MY COFFEE'LL SOOTHE THE SAVAGE BEAST!

NONE TAKEN, JOHNNY, BOY, THAT STUFF MAY BE A TETCH BITTER, BUT IT'S NEVER HURT ME NONE!
I'M 73 AN' GOIN' STRONG! FACT IS I'M DOIN' BETTER'N EVER SINCE I GOT THE... POWER!

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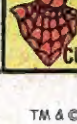

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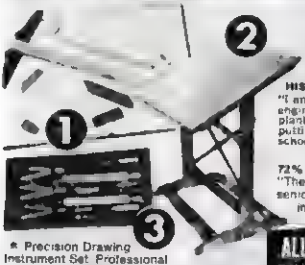

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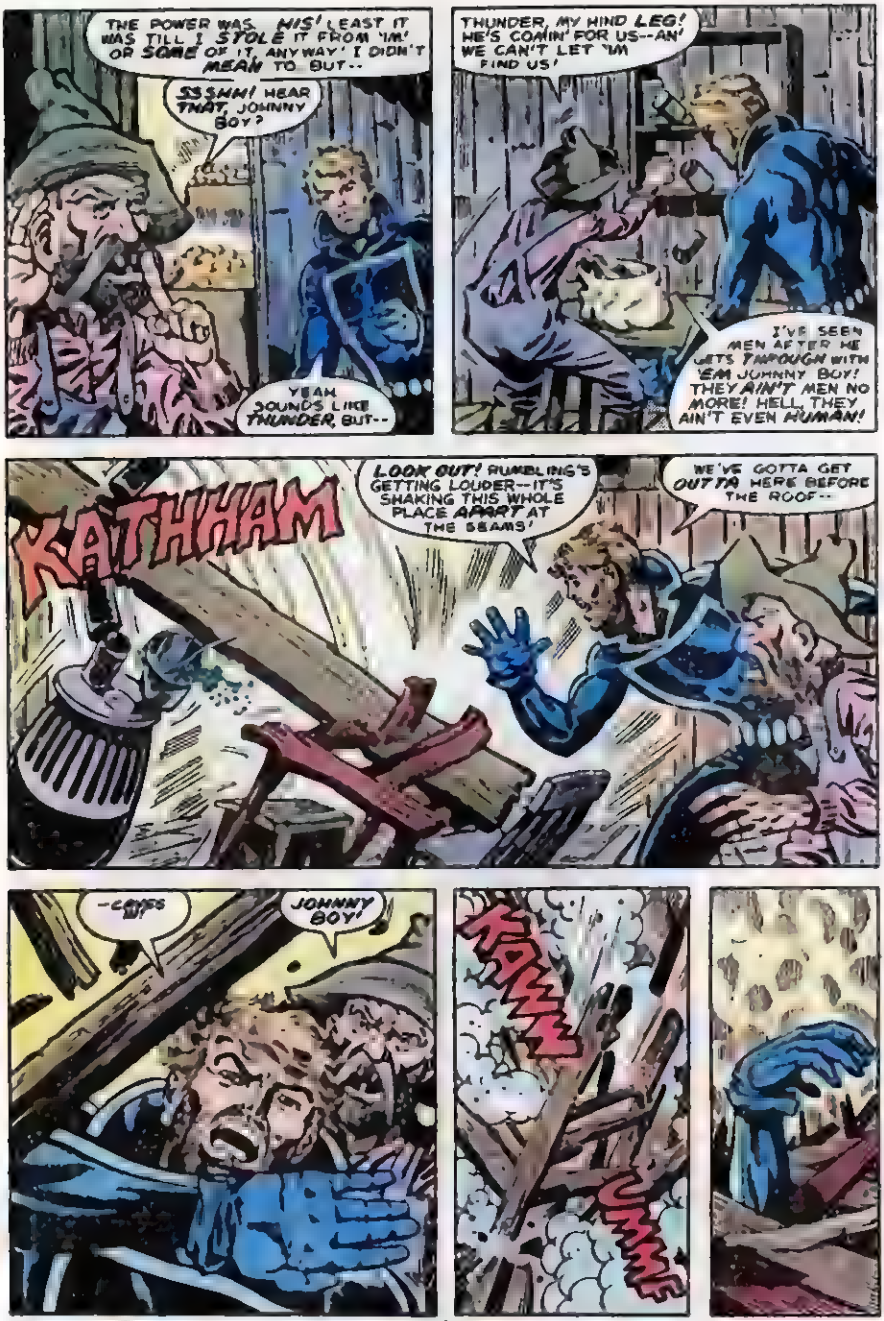
THE POWER WAS MIS' LEAST IT WAS TILL I STOLE IT FROM 'IM OR SOME OF IT, ANYWAY! I DIDN'T MEAN TO BUT--
SSSHH! HEAR THAT, JOHNNY BOY?
YEAH, SOUNDS LIKE THUNDER, BUT--
THUNDER, MY HIND LEG! HE'S COMIN' FOR US--AN' WE CAN'T LET 'IM FIND US!
I'VE SEEN MEN AFTER HE GETS THROUGH WITH 'EM JOHNNY BOY! THEY AIN'T MEN NO MORE! HELL, THEY AIN'T EVEN HUMAN!
KATHHAM
LOOK OUT! RUMBLING'S GETTING LOUDER--IT'S SHAKING THIS WHOLE PLACE APART AT THE SEAMS!
WE'VE GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE BEFORE THE ROOF--
--CLIFFS
JOHNNY BOY!
KOWW
UMMF

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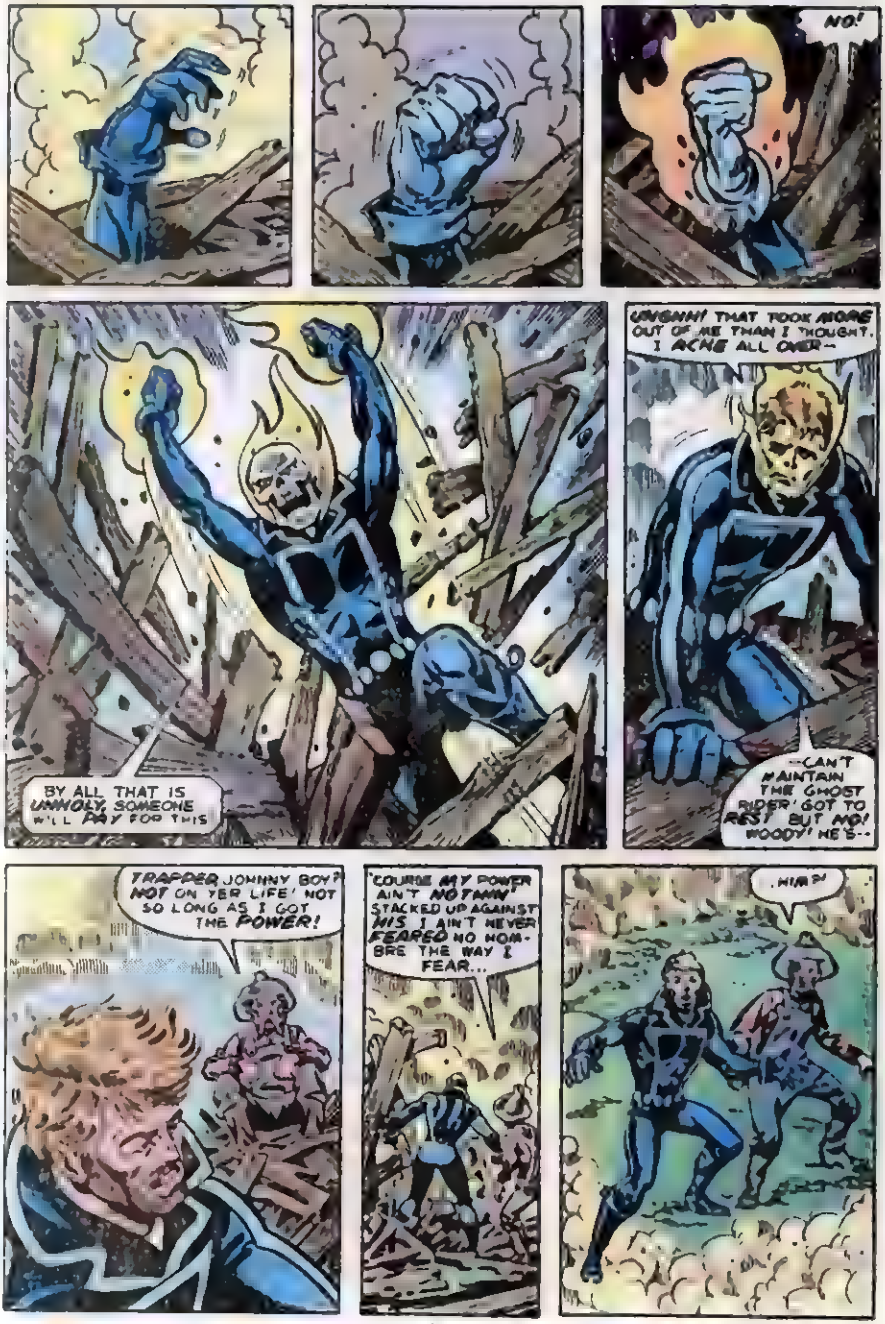
NO!
BY ALL THAT IS UNHOLY, SOMEONE WILL PAY FOR THIS
UNGHH! THAT TOOK MORE OUT OF ME THAN I THOUGHT. I ACHE ALL OVER--
--CAN'T MAINTAIN THE GHOST RIDER' GOT TO REST! BUT NO! WOODY' HE'S--
TRAPPER JOHNNY BOY? NOT ON YER LIFE' NOT SO LONG AS I GOT THE POWER!
'COURSE MY POWER AIN'T NOTHIN' STACKED UP AGAINST HIS I AIN'T NEVER FEARED NO NOMBRE THE WAY I FEAR...
...HIM?!

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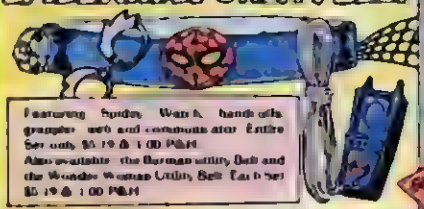

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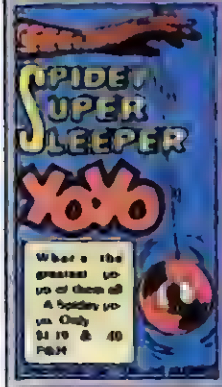

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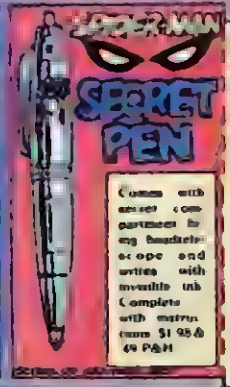

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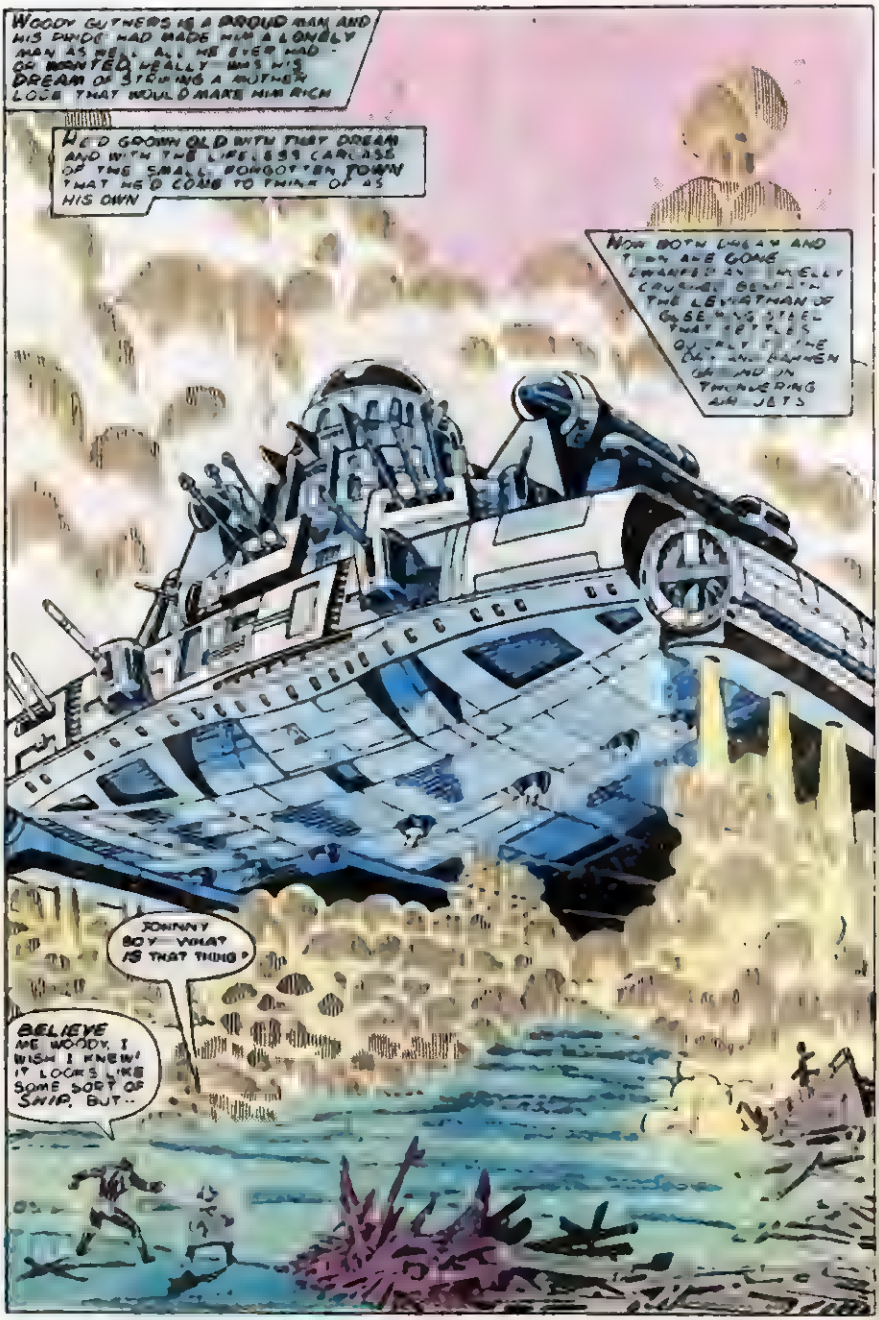
WOODY GUTHERIE IS A PROUD MAN AND HIS PRIDE HAD MADE HIM A LONELY MAN AS WELL ALL HE EVER HAD - OR WANTED, REALLY - WAS HIS DREAM OF STRIKING A MOTHER LODE THAT WOULD MAKE HIM RICH
HE'D GROWN OLD WITH THAT DREAM AND WITH THE LIFELESS CARCASS OF THE SMALL, FORGOTTEN TOWN THAT HE'D COME TO THINK OF AS HIS OWN
NOW BOTH OKLAHOMA AND TOM ARE GONE SWALLOWED AS WELL CRUSHED BENEATH THE LEVIATHAN OF GLEAMING STEEL THAT TOWERS ONLY IN THE DISTANCE NOW AND IN THUNDERING AIR JETS
JOHNNY BOY — WHAT IS THAT THING?
BELIEVE ME WOODY, I WISH I KNEW! IT LOOKS LIKE SOME SORT OF SHIP, BUT...

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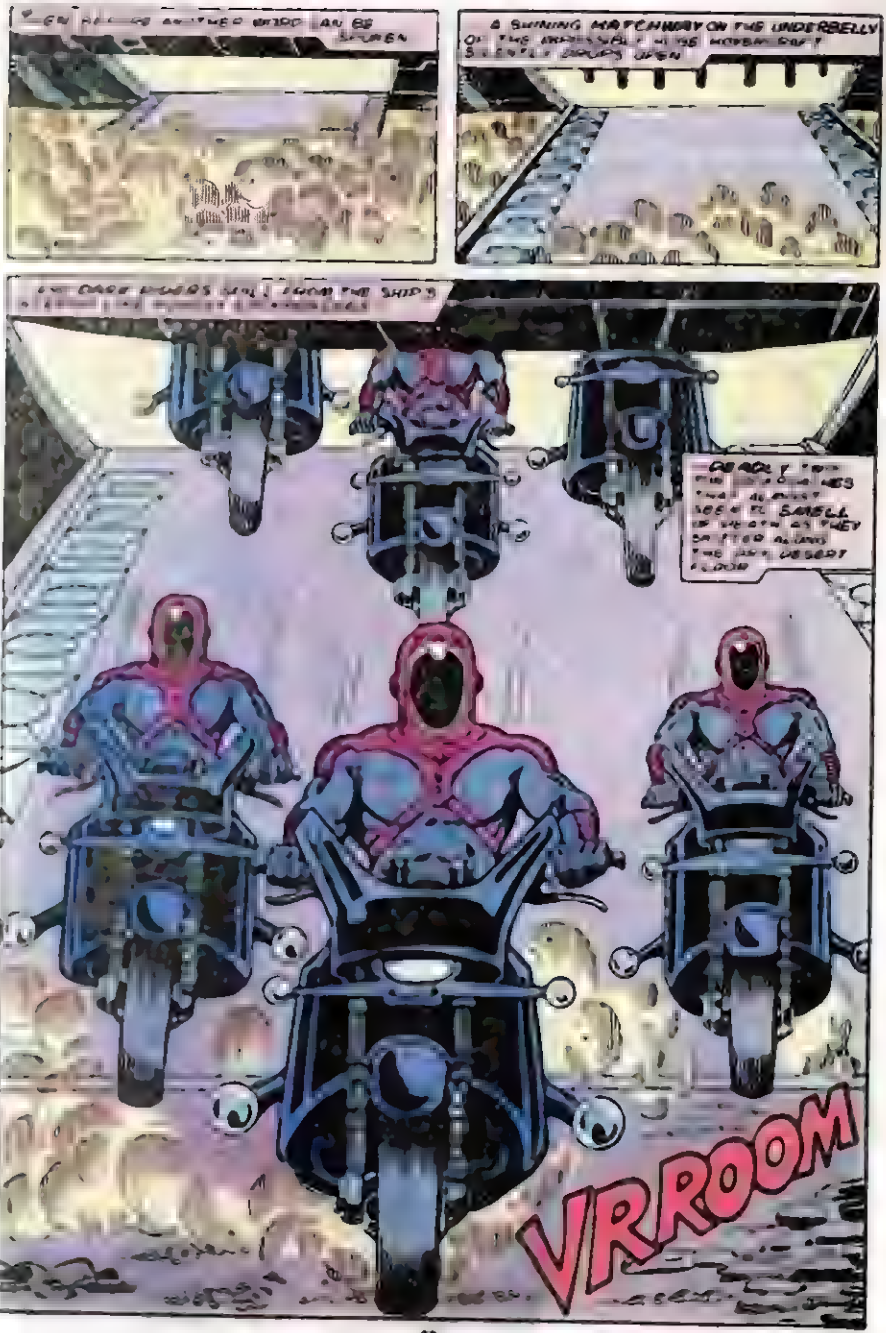

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Superduds of the Universe, take heart. At last our time has come.

No longer will we suffer the scorn of those who would mock our cause.

No longer will we bear the insults of the shriveling superavengers.

Groveling glory-seekers! They have their sweepstakes, and we shall have ours.

The Infamous Milk Duds Superduds Sweepstakes, to be precise.

Just fill out the entry blank, then mail it back to us. And strike a blow for Superduds everywhere.

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To all Milk Duds, Slo Poke, and Black Cow eaters, we offer an opportunity that the misguided followers of superheroes cannot share.

And you shall hear all about it, in due time.

But first, have patience while we tell you of our grand design.

Our design for total domination of the Famous Clark Bar Superhero (Ha!) Sweepstakes. We shall insist that your entry be accepted in their Sweepstakes. To give you an equal chance at the prizes they offer to their toadies.

We shall use force, if necessary.

YOUR DATE WITH DESTINY!

Now for the spoils of victory. The rich rewards of ruthlessness.

If you should be the first-prize winner, you and your family (limit of four people) will be flown to New York City and back.

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You'll be taken on a personal tour of the Marvel Comics offices, where an artist will draw your image into an upcoming issue of your favorite Marvel Comic.

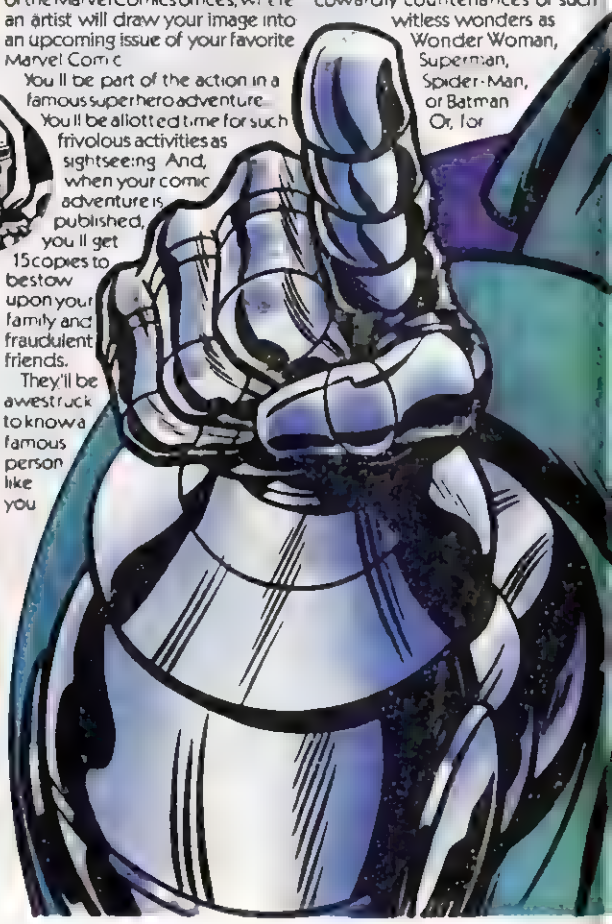
You'll be part of the action in a famous superhero adventure.

You'll be allotted time for such frivolous activities as sightseeing. And, when your comic adventure is published, you'll get 15 copies to bestow upon your family and fraudulent friends.

They'll be awestruck to know a famous person like you.

If you happen to be one of the 20 second-prize winners, you'll get your own Famous Superhero (Bah! Dolts!) or Infamous Superdud wristwatch.

You'll have your choice of the cowardly countenances of such witless wonders as Wonder Woman, Superman, Spider-Man, or Batman. Or, for



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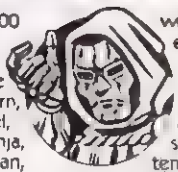
!! IT'S THE INFAMOUS UDS SWEEPSTAKES!

the enlightened among you, the Joker The full-color Swiss-made watches would normally sell for $19.95 to $23.95

If you should be one of the 100 third prize winners, you'll get a year's subscription to the DC or Marvel comic of your choice The Incredible Hulk, Green Lantern, Wonder Woman, Ms. Marvel, Captain America, Red Sonja, Justice Society, Plastic Man, Thor, you name it. Even that precious poppet, Little Lulu.

GRAND AND GLORIOUS SUPERDUDPRIZE!

And now, faithful followers, we come to the opportunity we promised earlier. In addition to drawings for all those prizes you've just been reading about, everybody who dares to enter the Infamous Milk Duds Superduds Sweepstakes



will automatically be entered in a special drawing And ten of those people, maybe even you, are going to win splendid Schwinn ten-speed bicycles. Of course, wrappers from Milk Duds, Slo Poke or Black Cow can also help you get all kinds of super premiums. All of the details are in the Famous Clark Bar ads

So find yourself a pen or pencil, fill out the entry blank– the rules (alas, we do have rules) say you must print– and mail your entry before November 1, 1978.

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GHOST WRITERS!

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ROGER STERN
EDITOR
JIM SALICRUP
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Folks,

My anti-Perlin friends have never believed me when I told them about the strong Ditko influence inherent in the man. Well, I'm going to have a thing or two to show them after Ghost Rider #30. The latest guest appearance of Dr. Strange had that wonderful aged feeling, like you'll sometimes get from a cross over where the guest is done in an old fashioned way. In a lot of ways you captured the essence of the good doctor better than the folks over at his own mag.

But Don's interpretation of the Master of the Mystic Arts wasn't the only good thing about the art this issue. I might mention the full page spread on page 10 and the equally effective cut on page 11. Then we have Perlin's wonderful version of Dormammu, combining Ditko's cartoonish style with his own version—combined with Jim Mooney's professional inks through out. Certainly Perlin is one of the toughest pencilers to ink well and in the absence of him inking his own work I hope you'll always fall back on Jim Mooney.

I didn't expect the story to be very much since I figured you had anticipated yourselves last time. What I didn't count on, of course, was Roger's pulling in the supporting cast and using the real Doc to much better effect than Mammy's doppleganger. You can't complain that it was a forced fight and, if anything, you could complain that McKenzie spent too much time giving us a rationale for the battle.

Perhaps the key to success for this comic is guest-stars.

Beppe Sabatini
515 Division St.
E. Lansing, MI 48823

Beppe, it's our feeling that whirlin' Don Perlin is one of the most underrated talents here at mighty Marvel and we're glad to see he's finally beginning to get some of the recognition he rightfully deserves! Don's the sort of guy that gives 110 per cent on every job he does and we couldn't be happier to have him working on Ghost Rider!

We thought his interpretation of Doc was perhaps some of his finest work yet—but if you haven't seen Roger Stern's and Tom Sutton's Dr. Strange lately you're really missing a fine comic! The good Doc's never been better!

But as for guest-stars, well. . .

Guys,

Don't worry, I'll keep this short. First of all, I'd like to make this perfectly clear, I have nothing against team-ups. Once in a while, and in regular team-up books, I can accept them. But Ghost Rider is not a team-up book!

Check the title. GHOST RIDER. *Not* Ghost Rider team-up or Match Game Ghost Rider. You're taxing the team-up to the limit! Next thing you'll have is a Ghost Rider, Millie the Model team-up!

Jeremy Lichtensten
135 Arlington Dr.
Libertyville, IL 60048

So there you have it. The reason editors turn grey and develop ulcers. But what do the rest of you think? More team-ups? Less? But when we last saw Ramblin' Rog, his eyes were a'gleam and we heard him murmuring, "Yeah—Millie the Model!"

Dear Folks,

If 'The Mage and the Monster' was supposed to be fantastic, it wasn't. Dormammu winds up being used as Doctor Strange's arch-foe just as The Red Skull is Captain America's arch enemy. Doc, however, requires no arch-foes and you certainly aren't using much imagination by pitting Doc and GR against Dormammu—an over-used villain.

By having him defeated so often you diminish his menace. In the past ten years he's been beaten six times. For one so powerful that is just too often!

Sam Hays
300 S. Edgewood St.
Arlington, VA 22204

Dear Rog and Don,

I'm kind of new to Ghost Rider, but between issues 29 & 30 I bought four back issues. Now that I'm back to the present, I've got a few questions.

1. Is Roxanne Simpson still Johnny's main girl? If so, please bring her back. This book needs as many supporting characters as it can get.
2. Is Johnny Blaze still working for DeLazny Studios?
3. Is Karen Page still around
4. What caused Johnny to become a super-hero?

I'm really enjoying the current GR/Doc Strange team-up saga and I can't wait till next issue when hopefully GR will be the star, not Dr. Strange. But before you consider this letter useless, I've got a list of what I (the reader) would like to see in the future.

1. A bigger supporting cast. Hopefully Roxanne, Karen and Coot Collier will return.

2. Give Ghost Rider back his cycle he had before the current one. I feel it was much more dynamic and added a little spice to the art.

3. And speaking of art, how about a permanent inker to grace Don Perlin's pencils?

Anyway, thank you for a great comic book. One that rose from "don't buy" to "camp out at the drugstore the night before the new shipment arrives!"

David Zimmermann
157 Lemay Gardens Ct.
Lemay, MI 63125

Dave, thank you for your letter and your support! Believe us, we don't consider any letter useless! Though it is impossible to print them all—much as we'd like to—rest assured that the Rogers (McKenzie and Stern) and Don read them all and consider all suggestions carefully. We only wish we had more to read. And that's about as subtle as we can get!

Now, to answer your questions and comment on your suggestions:

1. Right now we're not sure. She's still under the warped influence of The Orb and has forgotten Johnny completely. (But if you think *we've* forgotten her, just keep reading Ghost Rider! Her return is forthcoming, Dave, and it will be a story *you* won't soon forget!)

2. Nope.

3. Yep.

4. The devil made him do it.

We'll be working on a varied supporting cast in future issues, Dave, as well as on GR'S flame cycle. But as for a permanent inker, well, we'll do our best. And that's not a promise. It's a guarantee!

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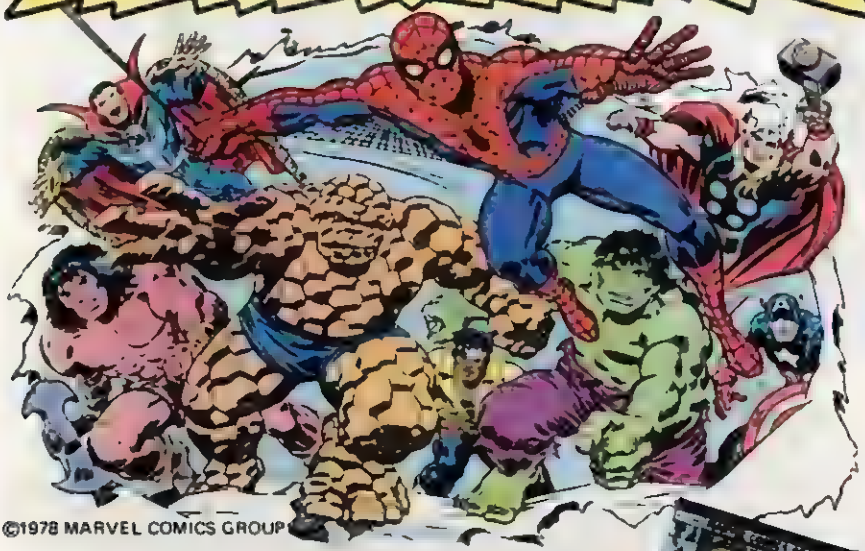

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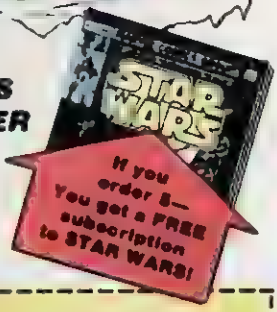

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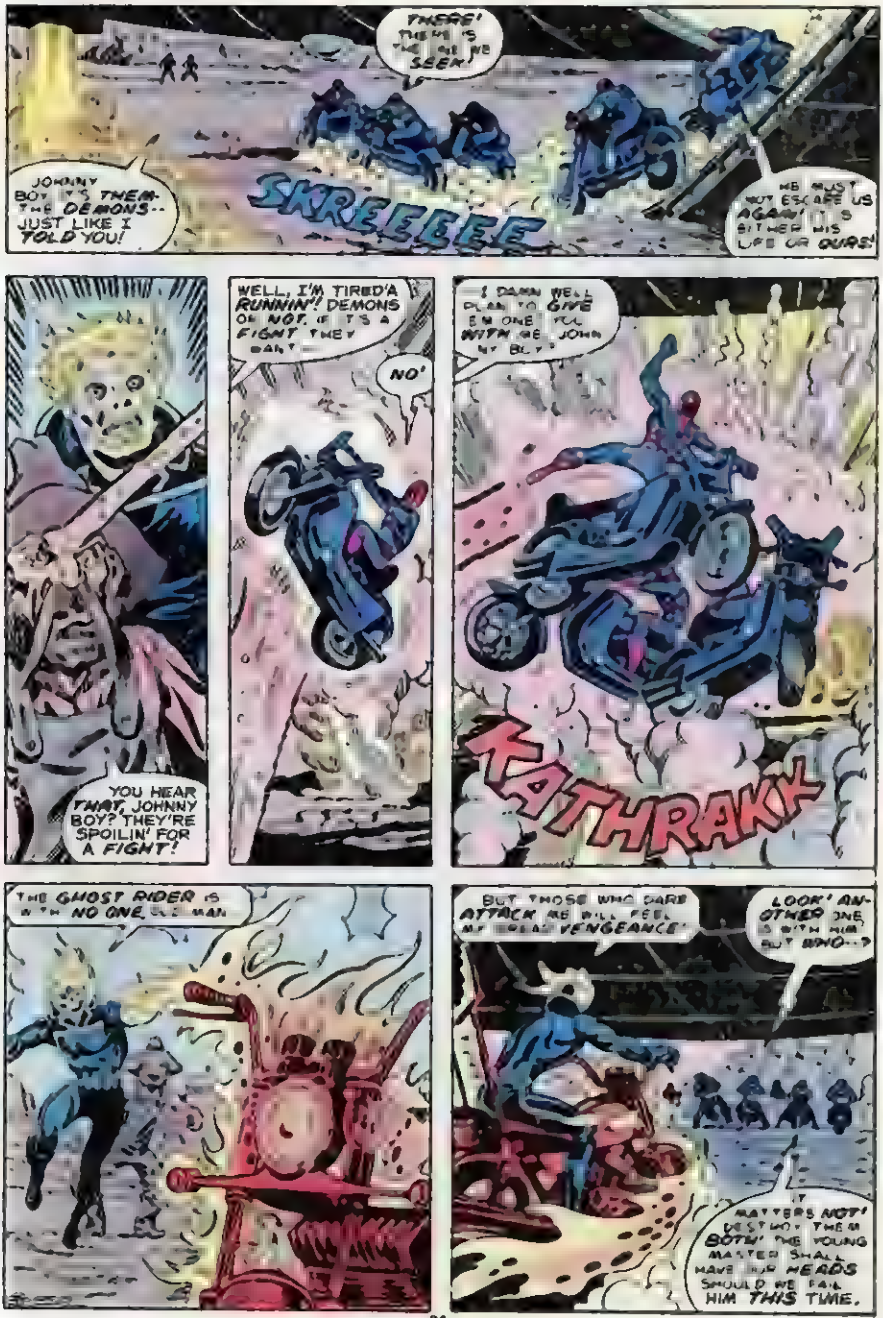
THERE! THERE'S THE BIKE WE SEEN!
JOHNNY BOY, IT'S THEM. THE DEMONS-- JUST LIKE I TOLD YOU!
SKREEEEEE
HE MUST NOT ESCAPE US AGAIN! IT'S EITHER HIS LIFE OR OURS!
YOU HEAR THAT, JOHNNY BOY? THEY'RE SPOILIN' FOR A FIGHT!
WELL, I'M TIRED'A RUNNIN'! DEMONS OR NOT, IF IT'S A FIGHT THEY WANT--
NO!
I DAMN WELL PLAN TO GIVE 'EM ONE. YOU WITH ME, JOHNNY BOY?
KATHRAKK
THE GHOST RIDER IS WITH NO ONE, OLD MAN.
BUT THOSE WHO DARE ATTACK ME WILL FEEL MY REAL VENGEANCE!
LOOK! ANOTHER ONE IS WITH HIM. BUT WHO--?
IT MATTERS NOT! DESTROY THEM BOTH! THE YOUNG MASTER SHALL HAVE OUR HEADS SHOULD WE FAIL HIM THIS TIME.

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NO! EVEN AN EXISTENCE SUCH AS OURS IS BETTER THAN THAT!
FROM BEHIND THE DARK RIDER'S VIEW-PLATE COMES A PIERCING BLAST OF COHERENT LIGHT
A BLAST WHICH PASSES RIGHT THROUGH THE GHOST RIDER!
FOOL! YOUR MAN-MADE FIRE IS NOTHING--
--COMPARED TO THE FLAMES OF HELL THAT FLOW ABOUT MY FORM!
IF BLOOD COURSED THROUGH THIS DEMON, IT WOULD RUN COLD THIS DAY
NO!
AS THE SILENT, HELLISH FLAMES REVEAL THE DARK RIDERS FOR WHAT THEY TRULY ARE
MOCKERIES, MOCKERIES OF MEN AND OF MACHINES
MOCKERIES OF LIFE ITSELF!

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ABOMINATIONS!
YOU ARE ABOMINATIONS! YOU BELONG IN HADES!
SKRAKK
ME DID THIS TO 'EM, JOHNNY BOY! HIM AN' HIS GOD-FORSAKEN GAMES!
I'LL BE HANGED IF I LET 'IM DO THE SAME TO-
--NEEEEEE?!
THHAKK
WE HAVE THE OLD ONE! THE YOUNG MASTER WILL BE PLEASED!
COME, WE MUST HURRY!
NO! YOU WILL NOT ESCAPE ME! NO MAN-- NO CREATURE-- THIS SIDE OF HELL--

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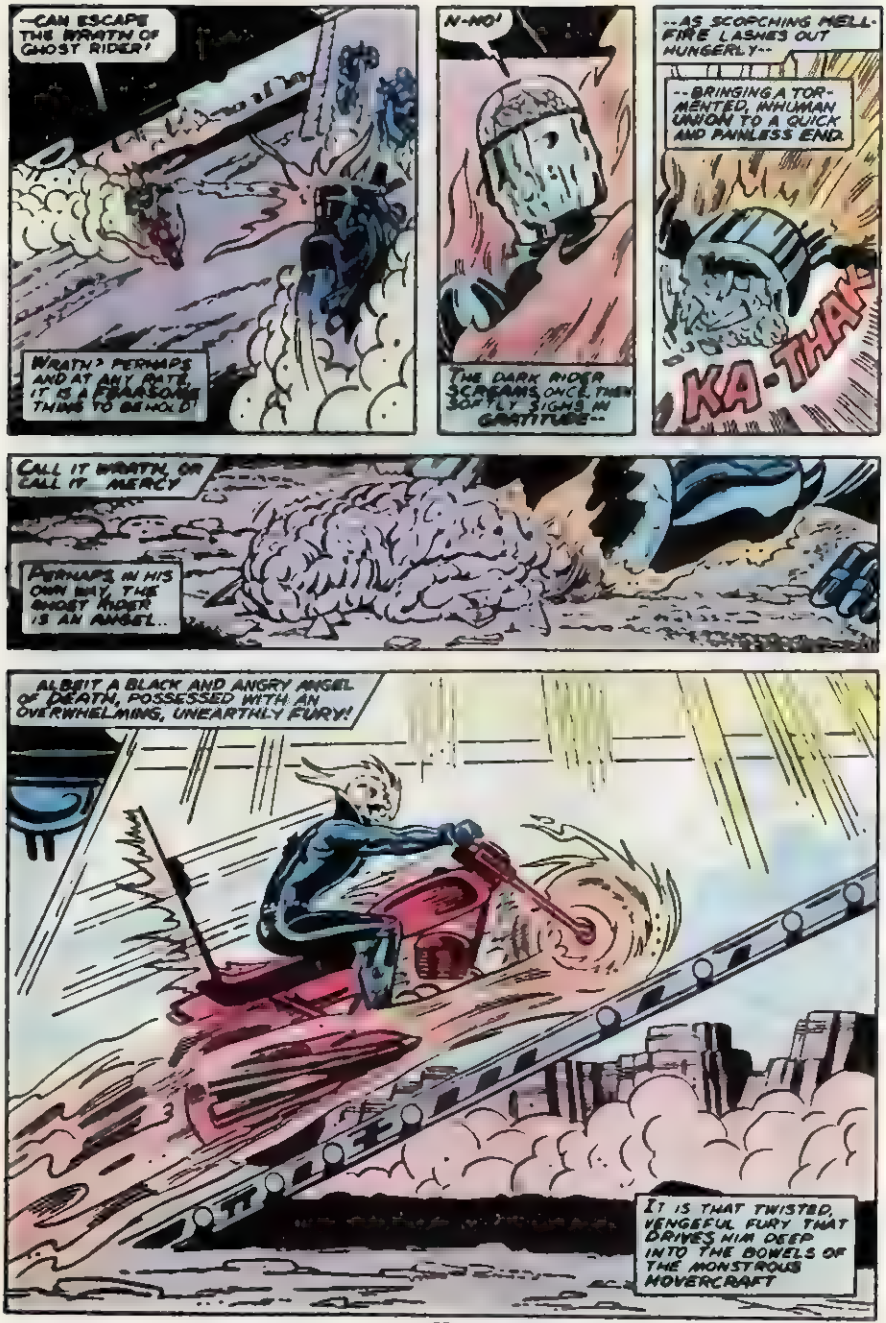
--CAN ESCAPE THE WRATH OF GHOST RIDER!
WRATH? PERHAPS AND AT ANY RATE, IT IS A FEARSOME THING TO BEHOLD!
N-NO!
THE DARK RIDER SCREAMS ONCE, THEN SOFTLY SIGHS IN GRATITUDE--
--AS SCORCHING HELL-FIRE LASHES OUT HUNGERLY--
--BRINGING A TORMENTED, INHUMAN UNION TO A QUICK AND PAINLESS END.
KA-THAK
CALL IT WRATH, OR CALL IT MERCY
PERHAPS, IN HIS OWN WAY, THE GHOST RIDER IS AN ANGEL..
ALBEIT A BLACK AND ANGRY ANGEL OF DEATH, POSSESSED WITH AN OVERWHELMING, UNEARTHLY FURY!
IT IS THAT TWISTED, VENGEFUL FURY THAT DRIVES HIM DEEP INTO THE BOWELS OF THE MONSTROUS HOVERCRAFT

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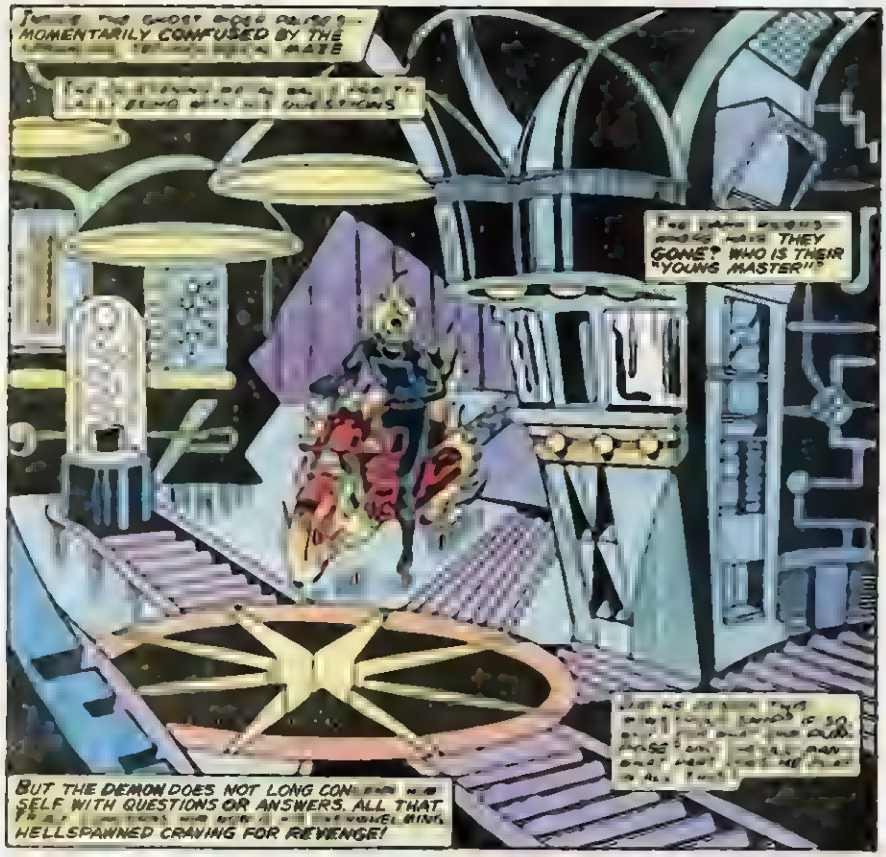
MOMENTARILY CONFUSED BY THE
THEY GONE? WHO IS THEIR "YOUNG MASTER!!"
BUT THE DEMON DOES NOT LONG CON
SELF WITH QUESTIONS OR ANSWERS. ALL THAT
HELLSPAWNED CRAVING FOR REVENGE!

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BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hey, remember me telling you I was going to Tokyo in May to help launch some new Marvel projects? Well, now that I'm back, I thought you'd like to know that all of Japan seems to be mad about Marvel! They're doing their own version of Spider-Man, live action, as a weekly TV series; publishing more stories of our shy little superheroes than I could count; and I wish you could see all the clever toys and games they've based on our Marvel mythos. One of these days we'll do an article showing some of our more picturesque Japanese items, as soon as we can figure out which mag to print it in.

Item! You'll soon be seeing a great new feature in the Sunday Comic pages of newspapers from coast to coast called "Marvelous Fun and Games" by Owen McCarron (the talented whiz who brought you the first few Simon & Schuster Marvel Fun Books.) The full-color feature presents your superhero favorites in a merry melange of puzzles and games. Who says we're not spreading culture all over the land?

And now, it's time to reply to the first of the many, many questions you've sent me in answer to an earlier Soapbox request. This query was one of the most frequently asked, so I'll tackle it first. "Will comicbooks get better and better, or will the field just stagnate with the same recycled ideas?" Naturally, I'm no more of a prophet than you, but here's the way I see it. We'll continue to use the same "recycled" ideas, if that's what you mean by new adventures of our world famous superheroes being published month after month, year after year. We'll keep producing them as long as you want them, and judging by the way you've been gobblin' them up, your interest hasn't slackened. *But*, besides bringing our usual literary fare, we spend virtually all of our free time trying to dream up new characters, new formats, new concepts, to keep the world of comics vital and alive and ever growing. Just look at some of our recent innovations: the Marvel line of rock star mags, such as KISS, the BEATLES, the upcoming SHAUN CASSIDY, SGT PEPPER, ROLLING STONES, and other titles. The new Marvel super specials, $1.50 magazines with artwork in full color on glossy paper, such as our CONAN SUPER SPECIAL, with many other titles to follow. Then too, there are the new Marvel movie and book adaptations, plus PIZZAZZ, the steadily growing CRAZY, and the countless new Marvel projects in the works from Simon & Schuster and Pocket Books. And, as soon as we can catch our breaths, we'll be coordinating our projects with our own magazines in a new different series of publications. 'Nuff said?

Next ish—the answer to another of your most oft repeated questions: "Is Irving Forbush a real person?" Till then, if you can bear the suspense, why not take a duck to lunch?

Excelsior!

Stan

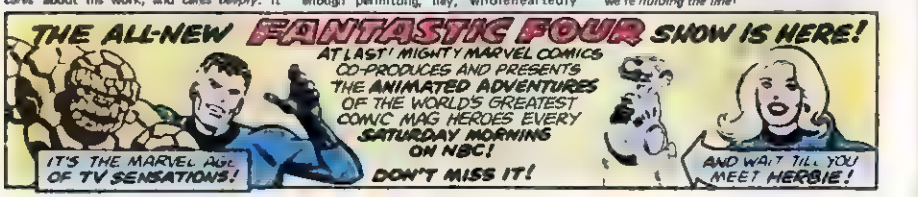
ITEM! They came from the wooded glens of Connecticut, and from the exotic shores of New Jersey, from the far off glades of Penn's Woods and from nearby Midtown. From Flushing by the 7 train they travelled, and from Inwood by the A. One plucky lady, 'tis said, braved the awesome dangers of the dreaded LIRR to traverse the staggering distance from her home in the fabled City of Gardens to the Hallowed Halls of Marvel. One by one they came, until at last, to a man they stood united; and the gathered throng thus convened this year's second Mighty Marvel Writers Meeting. Editor-in-Chief JIM *(Trouble)* SHOOTER presided, Consulting Editor *Marvelous* MARV WOLFMAN generously gave of his valuable time to lend an assist, and the Editorial Staff took notes as discussion ranged from the Art of Storytelling to the Science of Balloon Placement. Long into the afternoon they spoke, and when at length they adjourned, if no Great Issues were resolved, it was clear that every single body in that room *cares* about his work, and cares *deeply*. It seems to us that there's no ingredient more necessary to Quality than Caring — and we're pretty darn proud to be the kind of people and the kind of company that cares!

ITEM! Speaking of GODZILLA—just when we thought we'd seen it all, *Devil May-Care* DOUG MOENCH and *Happy* HERB TRIMPE came through with a *little* idea that flipped our embroidered babushkas! It's incredible! It's unbelievable! It's a beautifully ironic twist of fate that is guaranteed to leave Marvel continuity buffs everywhere astonished and delighted! It's *real*—and it's happening in the pages of GODZILLA #17, on sale *right now!* So get *out* there, Lizard-philes, and nab your copy before it gets away. Be *warned*, however—there's a Godzilla you've never *seen* before lurking inside!

ITEM! The shredding sound you hear, should you happen to be in the Apple near 575 Mad Avenue, is probably Marvel Editor *Broadway* BOB HALL feeding another page of the rulebook to the Armadillos. As if it weren't enough permitting, nay, wholeheartedly *approving* the madness currently raging 'twixt the covers of GODZILLA, Bob has thrown caution, convention, and sanity to the winds with the Dynamic DEFENDERS as well. Once again, he has combined the not inconsiderable talents of DAVE *(The Dude)* KRAFT and *Energetic* ED HANNIGAN and more-or-less turned them loose on a three part mini-epic ranging from the pits of Earth-1 Urban Blight to (are you ready for this?) the gleaming spires of Eternal ASGARD! Dave and Bob have been closely coordinating with Consulting Editor and resident Mythology Expert, *Rascally* ROY THOMAS concerning the Defenders' doings in the Golden Realm, to make certain everything meshes perfectly with Roy's current storyline in the pages of THOR. As for what's actually going *on*, Dave, Ed, Bob and able Assistant Editor MARY JO DUFFY asked us *not* to say! We *will* tell ya however, they have spent quite a bit of time lately chortling over their plans, so you can be sure what's coming up, beginning in DEFENDERS #66 (on sale now) is *not* what you'd expect. Get your copy and let us know what you think—should we *fire* the lot of 'em—or give 'em a *raise*?

ITEM! And now for something *completely* different! You say your car won't start, your bowling average is down and your ring around the-collar is loud enough to wake the neighbors? Well, you lose. Sadly, we must admit that our new MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL PIN-UP BOOK will do absolutely nothing to right most of the cruel injustices of Fate. What it *will* do is dazzle you with its 21 *huge* 11"x15" full-color illustrations of Marvel's Magnificent Heroes and Heroines in action! It's all here—all the glory, grandeur, power, and drama that marks the Marvel Age of Comics, caught in the carefully created and skillfully selected poster shots that tell it best. The accompanying narrative will excite and enlighten you. No collector should be without his own copy. You'll see it at better book stores everywhere—*if* you look *soon*!

ITEM! For those of you who are independently wealthy, and, therefore, send your chauffeur down to the magazine store to pick up the latest batch of Marvel's monthly offerings, and then don't bother to count the change from the C-Note you gave him, we feel obligated to mention that Marvel Comics are *still* only 35¢ a throw. That, of course, is an academic point to the landed gentry, but to the rest of you—and *us*—it means a lot. We've been getting the message from your many cards and letters for umpteen months back, that today's up-up-and-away prices are squeezing you hard—and you just didn't have the bucks to pay 50¢ or a Dollar for Comics—even for comics as good as ours. Okay, guys, we're *listening*. We *heard* ya! And we're *holding the line*!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-UNTIL, AT LAST A DARK RIDER! BUT HE MOVES SO SLOWLY! ALMOST AS IF HE HE WANTS ME TO CATCH HIM!
BUT WHY WOULD HE DO THAT UNLESS...
"NOW FATHER! END THIS GAME...
KLIK
"NOW!
KACHAUK
EH? WHAT TREACHERY IS THIS? MY PATH IS SUDDENLY BLOCKED!
I WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO STOP IN TIME!
BUT THEN, THERE IS NO NEED! WHAT I CANNOT GO AROUND I WILL SIMPLY GO OVER!
BY THE DARK LORD, NO! THE FLOOR!
WHAIIIR
THE DEMON FALLS
INTO DARKNESS!
KLAANG!

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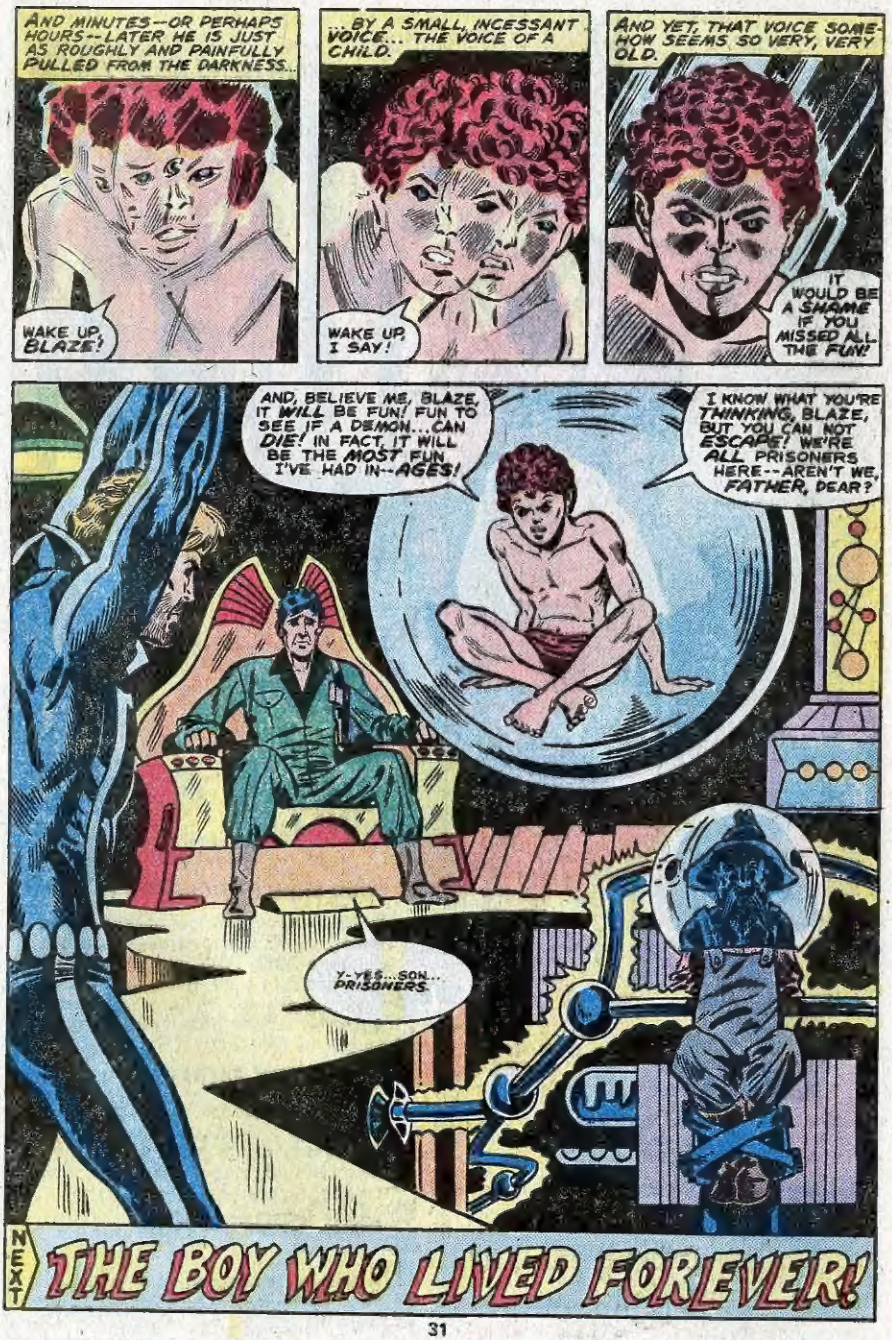
AND MINUTES--OR PERHAPS HOURS--LATER HE IS JUST AS ROUGHLY AND PAINFULLY PULLED FROM THE DARKNESS...
WAKE UP, BLAZE!
...BY A SMALL, INCESSANT VOICE... THE VOICE OF A CHILD.
WAKE UP, I SAY!
AND YET, THAT VOICE SOMEHOW SEEMS SO VERY, VERY OLD.
IT WOULD BE A SHAME IF YOU MISSED ALL THE FUN!
AND, BELIEVE ME, BLAZE, IT WILL BE FUN! FUN TO SEE IF A DEMON...CAN DIE! IN FACT, IT WILL BE THE MOST FUN I'VE HAD IN--AGES!
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING, BLAZE, BUT YOU CAN NOT ESCAPE! WE'RE ALL PRISONERS HERE--AREN'T WE, FATHER, DEAR?
Y-YES...SON... PRISONERS.
NEXT
THE BOY WHO LIVED FOREVER!

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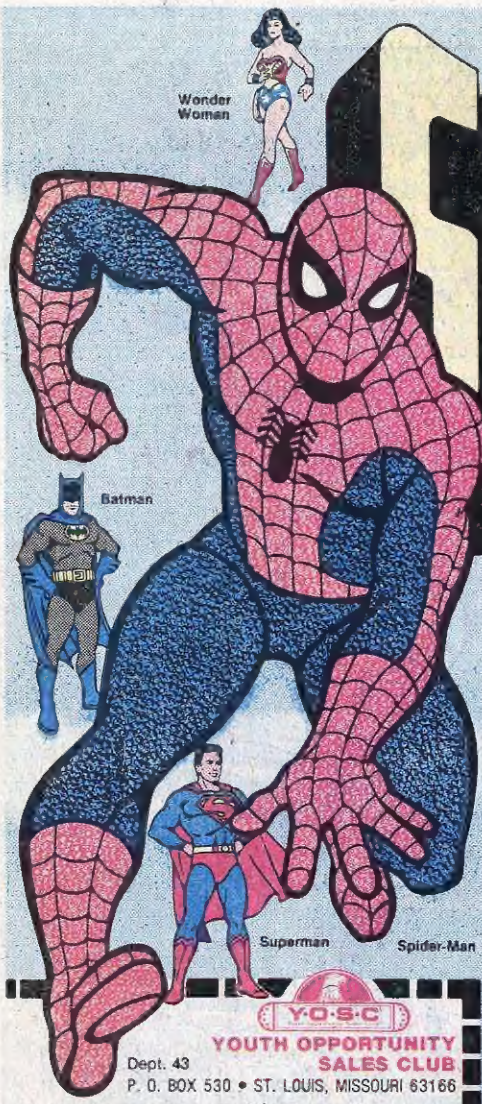
YOUR HERO ADDS ZAP, SPARKLE TO YOUR ROOM

SUPER HANG UPS



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